

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs ● (816) 426-4220 ● 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 ● Kansas City, MO 64106 www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html

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MEXICAN NATIONAL INDICTED IN METH CONSPIRACY, THREATENING WITNESS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Mexican national living in Poplar Bluff, Mo., was indicted by a federal grand jury today for his role in a methamphetamine conspiracy and for threatening a witness.

Francisco Corona-Moret, 20, a Mexican national living in Poplar Bluff, was charged in a three-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Corona-Moret** conspired with others to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine between July 22 and Aug. 10, 2004.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Corona-Moret** distributed five grams or more of methamphetamine on Aug. 10, 2004.

Count Three of the federal indictment alleges that **Corona-Moret** used threats and intimidation on May 7, 2005, to prevent a witness from testifying in an official proceeding.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Joseph M. Marquez. The case was investigated by the Jackson County Drug Task Force.

Graves cautioned that the charge contained in the indictment is simply an accusation, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charge must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States

Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html